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# STOCK REDUCING SALE



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## Do You Know that Hundreds of People in Dallas and Polk County are Taking Advantage of Our STOCK REDUCING SALE

and do you know that these people are all saving from ONE-FOURTH to ONE-THIRD on the price of any article they buy.

We are heavily overstocked with merchandise and must reduce our stock before the holidays, therefore, for real values that you will appreciate come to us. Space will not permit us to quote prices but come in and see for yourself, you are not obligated to buy. If our values are not better than others, do not buy from us but a look through our stock will convince you that our prices and the quality of our merchandise cannot be duplicated.

### REMEMBER! THIS SALE CLOSES CHRISTMAS EVE

so don't put off coming in till the last day. Teachers especially invited to attend our bargain feast

## PRICE BROS.' CLOTHES SHOP

DALLAS,  
OREGON

Our Holiday line is the largest and best in town and the prices are lower than elsewhere. You are doing yourself an injustice if you don't buy from us

### Actors on Christmas

There's lots of work,  
And there ain't no play,  
So what's the use  
Of a Christmas day?

THAT little verse, paraphrased from one familiar to soldiers, just about sums up the real Christmas sentiment existing among people connected with the theatrical business. No, that doesn't mean that the actor, the manager and the advance agent do not appreciate the giving and receiving of presents from their friends. But it does mean that people connected with the stage have come to look upon the Christmas time as a season of short pay and hard work.

It isn't generally known, but it is none the less true, that most actors have a clause in their contracts which calls for half pay the week before Christmas. This clause was inserted in the days when the week before Christmas really was a "tough" one in the theatrical business. But nowadays there are many productions which pack the theaters to the doors the week before Christmas as well as any other week in the year. Nevertheless some of the managers live up to that contract and deduct the half week's pay. That is one reason why actors aren't particularly merry at Christmas.

There are other managers who make a practice of laying off their companies the week before Christmas and some of them ten days or two weeks before. In that case there is no salary at all forthcoming. That, probably, is another reason why the average actor cannot understand why Christmas is an occasion to be unduly joyful.

It was only last year that some of the managers came to the conclusion that stage people, like other human beings, might like to spend some part of the Christmas holiday with their friends and relatives. Up to that year it had been the custom of all managers to give a special matinee on Christmas day. That meant, of course, that about all the actor had to do on this festive occasion was to rush to the theater almost as soon as he had acquired his regular amount of sleep, give an afternoon performance and then, if fortunate enough to have friends or relatives living in the city, to hurry through his Christmas dinner with them or leave before it was half over to go back to the theater to play the evening performance.

But a few of the managers changed that last year by omitting the Christmas matinee and giving it on the day following. There were other managers, however, who not only gave the Christmas matinee, but acted on the suggestion of their more charitable competitors and gave the matinee the day after too. However, this omission of the

Christmas matinee was confined almost exclusively to a few of the first class theaters in New York city.

On the road it is different. The actors have to work just as hard as they

ever did, and opposition from local managers will probably prevent the elimination of the Christmas matinee outside of New York.

With some companies Christmas is not the disagreeable occasion that it is with others. One or two owners make it a practice to instruct the manager with the company to have a Christmas dinner prepared at the expense of the show. Sometimes a caterer is called in, and the dinner is served on the stage between the matinee and the evening performance. In that event the dinner usually proves prolific of material for the house press agent, and the affair is duly recorded in the daily papers. Sometimes it is served on the stage after the evening performance. Other times arrangements are made at some hotel.

It was one of these after the performance affairs that came pretty near putting a traveling stock company out of business in a town out in Iowa last Christmas. This theater, by the way, boasts of the only dog critic in existence.



DINNER ON STAGE BETWEEN PERFORMANCES

ence. This comes from the fact that if the dog doesn't like a show he will start to howl, and he has to be removed from the theater before the performance can be continued.

Only a month before a well known concert singer was appearing at the theater. She had about finished one of her best selections when the dog poked his nose over the railing of an upper box and began to howl his disapproval. That led to the temporary banishment of the dog critic from the theater. But when the stock company came along the manager heard about the dog, and, willing to take a chance that the dog's judgment of his show would be favorable, he suggested that the dog be allowed to sit by a big well, which was a part of the scenic effect

in one of the acts, just for the sake of realism.

Now, this same manager had concluded to give his company a dinner on the stage after the performance. In the course of the play the dog was brought out and tied to the well. Everything went all right until the dog sniffed the turkey and the other good things at the side of the stage, and without waiting for the finish of the act he made for the food, dragging the "heavy rock walled well" behind him.

This action on the part of the dog critic disturbed things generally. For the villain had just been arranging with one of his confederates to rid himself of the hero of the play by tossing him down the aforesaid well. The villain, after the laughter subsided, arranged his part of the plot by canceling the order to have the hero tossed down the well and instead to have him tied to a railroad track. However, the audience refused to take the play seriously after the well disappeared.

There is probably more real Christmas sentiment in plays that have to carry children as a part of the production than in any of the others. With these shows there is usually a Christmas tree between the matinee and the evening performance in which every one joins in and makes merry.

A hard lot is that of the actor who happens to be playing what is known as "the small time" around the holidays. "Small time" contracts call for three shows a day, and on Christmas day an extra one is usually added. A vaudeville actor on "big time" probably has more time to appreciate Christmas—if Christmas really can be appreciated away from home—than any other because he is usually in the theater but an hour in the afternoon and an hour in the evening, and the rest of the time is his own unless the house manager has promised to "ask" him to go over to some club and entertain the guests at their Christmas reception. Of course the actor doesn't have to do this, but if the manager is of any standing at all in the vaudeville world the actor usually finds it expedient to grant the request.

But the man probably who spends the loneliest Christmas of them all is the poor advance agent—renewed on the program as business manager, advance representative or manager in advance. Unless the advance agent is close enough to his home town to "jump" for Christmas he usually gets a genuine attack of the blues. True, the advance man who has been on the road for any length of time can usually be depended upon to meet people he knows, but they are people who live in the town, and he usually finds himself dining alone when the time comes for him to eat his "Christmas dinner."

#### Why She Shops Early.

"I'm going to start my Christmas shopping right now and get it over with," said Mrs. Jones at the breakfast table.

"Ah, to add the poor, tired shopgirl and help the movement for early deliveries," her son remarked in tones of commendation.

"Never thought of that," was the disconcerting reply. "I'm going to buy all my presents at Smart & Co's, and

shops like theirs have handsome delivery wagons. I want all the neighbors to see the wagons stop at my door. Last year I bought a lot of these things at expensive shops, and not a parcel was delivered until after dark. For all the neighbors know they might have come from those pay by the week stores in unmarked wagons."

**A Real Santa Claus.**  
SANTA CLAUS I hang for you,  
By the mantle, stocking two,  
One for me and one to go  
To another boy I know.

There's a chimney in the town  
You have never traveled down.  
Should you chance to enter there  
You would find a room all bare.  
Not a stocking would you see.  
Matters not how you might try.  
And the shoes you'd find are such  
As no boy would care for much.  
In a broken bed you'd see  
Some one fast about like me.  
Dreaming of the pretty toys  
Which you bring to other boys.  
And to him a Christmas seems  
Merry only in the dreams.  
All he dreams, then, Santa Claus  
Stuff the stockings with, because  
When it's filled up to the brim  
I'll be Santa Claus to him!  
—Frank Dempster Sherman.

#### Give Him a Walking Stick.

A walking stick is always acceptable for a man whether he is young or elderly. He likes a collection, so that he may have different kinds for various occasions. Quite the newest and most unique styles have cigar lighters or tiny electric bulbs concealed in their handles. Such small lights often illuminate the vicinity of the keyhole on a dark night.

If he rides a crop will delight him, for the horseman enjoys the possession of a variety.

#### Holly Used as Christmas Tree.

In the southern states holly is used almost exclusively for Christmas trees. This tree abounds in the forests, and frequently boys earn their Christmas money by cutting and selling them in the larger towns. Occasionally a cedar tree is used at Christmas time. Mistletoe also is plentiful in the south, but is difficult to gather, as it usually grows at the very top of the highest oak trees. Fir trees are seldom found in the southern states.

#### Christmas Boxes an Old Custom.

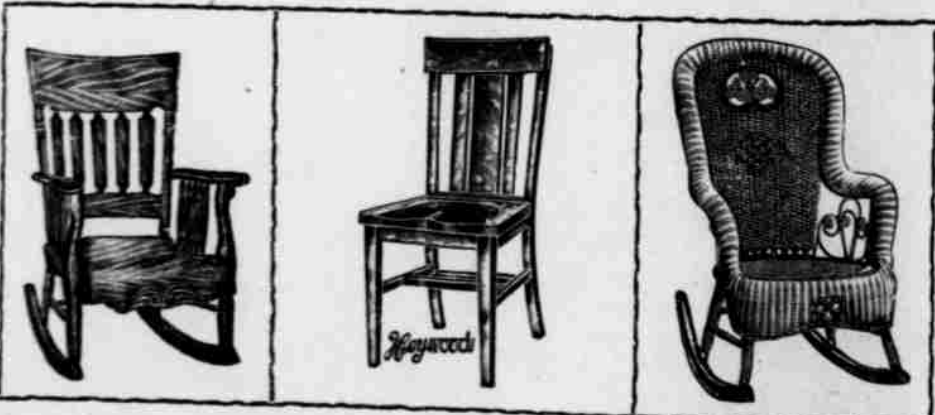
The bestowing of Christmas boxes is of great antiquity and was formerly the bounty of well disposed persons who were willing to contribute something toward the indigent. Later the gift came to be demanded as a right and became somewhat of a nuisance. In England the day after Christmas is known as "boxin' day" from the Christmas boxes which used to be in circulation. In British museums can be seen boxes covered with green glass, with a slit in the side, for money and presents.

#### "Spug" Movement Spreading.

The "spug" movement originated several years ago and has grown very rapidly recently. This name is derived by using the initials of an organization formed in Chicago. It is the Society for the Prevention of Unnecessary Giving. Some members of this society give no presents at all, while others confine their gifts to the immediate family.



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